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Attorney Docket No. 47234-5003  
**PATENT**



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Kenzo TAKAHASHI et al.

Application No.: 10/560,936

Filed: May 16, 2006

FOR: ULTRAFINE GROUND TEA  
DISPERSION AND FOOD OR  
BEVERAGE CONTAINING THE SAME

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:  
: Confirmation No.: 4024  
:  
: Group Art Unit: 1761  
:  
: Examiner: Unassigned  
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:  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
**Customer Window Mail Stop: Amendment**  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the undersigned's knowledge, this IDS is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits after filing an RCE under § 1.114, or within three months of the application filing date.

An International Preliminary Report on Patentability dated May 4, 2006 listing documents from a counterpart, related, or other application and having documents cited thereon is attached for the Examiner's consideration. Any of these documents not previously cited, and any additional documents are listed on the PTO Form 1449.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. As for any document listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 that is in a language other than English, relevance can be understood from an enclosed English abstract or at least partial translation or from mention in the specification or in a search report for a corresponding application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that any of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should any of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

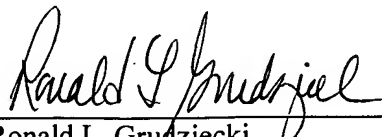
Should any questions arise in connection with this application, or should the Examiner believe a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted at the number indicated below.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this Application, including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required and including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

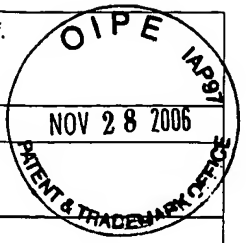
Respectfully Submitted,

Date: November 28, 2006  
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FORM PTO-1449 (modified) To: U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>	Attorney Docket No.	Client Ref.
	47234-5003	
	Applicant: Kenzo TAKAHASHI et al.	
	Appln. No.: 10/560,936	
	Filing Date: May 16, 2006	
Date: November 28, 2006	Examiner: Unassigned	Group Art Unit: 1761



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner's Initials*	Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Name (Family Name of First Inventor)	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
AR						
BR						
CR						
DR						
ER						
FR						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						English Abstract		Translation Readily Available	
	Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Country	Inventor/Applicant Name		Enclosed	No	Enclosed	No
GR	2001-045971	02/2001	JP	Shibata Toshio					
HR									
IR									
JR									
KR									
LR									
MR									
NR									
OR									
PR									

OTHER (Including in this order Author, Title, Periodical Name, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)								
QR								
RR								
SR								
TR								
UR								
VR								
WR								
XR								

Examiner	Date Considered:
*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.	